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04333-0001

Paul R. LePage  
GOVERNOR

June 8, 2016

Wayne Pacelle  
President & CEO  
The Humane Society of the United States  
2100 L Street, NW  
Washington DC 20037

Dear Wayne:

I am writing to express my disappointment with your recent media event regarding your "Request for Investigation of Shell Egg Production Facility in Turner, Maine." Because of the manner in which this was brought to our attention, I can only conclude you are more concerned with fundraising than you are about the animals involved; in this case, chickens.

With just one phone call to Maine, our inspectors would have been there immediately. This approach would have been more effective, efficient and less time consuming for all involved. Instead, you took the low road.

Maine can be justifiably proud of its animal welfare laws, which serve as examples for other states around the country. Perhaps you noticed that in 2015, the Animal Legal Defense Fund ranked Maine in the top 5 states for the toughest animal abuse laws (it has done so since 2006 when their rankings started). Better yet, how about this quote from Katie Lisnik, the former Maine State Director for HSUS: "Maine's animal protection laws are ranked as some of the best in the country."

Then again, perhaps it doesn't matter, especially in light of the negative publicity you generated for a few days before you move on to your next "gotcha" moment.

While I am on the subject of animal welfare, imagine the good you could have done if you used all the money (over \$2.5 million) you spent unsuccessfully on the bear-hunting referendum to support animal rescues and shelters. It really makes people wonder about your real priorities.

Sincerely disappointed,

Paul R. LePage  
Governor



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